

This key should allow you to understand why you choose the option you did (beyond just getting a question right or wrong). More instructions on how to use this key can be found [here](#).

If you have a suggestion to make the keys better, please fill out the short survey [here](#).

*Note: This key is auto-generated and may contain issues and/or errors. The keys are reviewed after each exam to ensure grading is done accurately. If there are issues (like duplicate options), they are noted in the offline gradebook. The keys are a work-in-progress to give students as many resources to improve as possible.*

1. Construct the lowest-degree polynomial given the zeros below. Then, choose the intervals that contain the coefficients of the polynomial in the form  $x^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ .

$$-3 - 2i \text{ and } -3$$

The solution is  $x^3 + 9x^2 + 31x + 39$ , which is option C.

- A.  $b \in [-5, 3], c \in [5.4, 6.45], \text{ and } d \in [7.9, 9.4]$

$x^3 + x^2 + 6x + 9$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 3)(x + 3)$ .

- B.  $b \in [-5, 3], c \in [4.58, 5.53], \text{ and } d \in [1.9, 7.1]$

$x^3 + x^2 + 5x + 6$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x + 2)(x + 3)$ .

- C.  $b \in [2, 13], c \in [30.15, 31.6], \text{ and } d \in [38.1, 39.8]$

\*  $x^3 + 9x^2 + 31x + 39$ , which is the correct option.

- D.  $b \in [-17, -6], c \in [30.15, 31.6], \text{ and } d \in [-42, -38.7]$

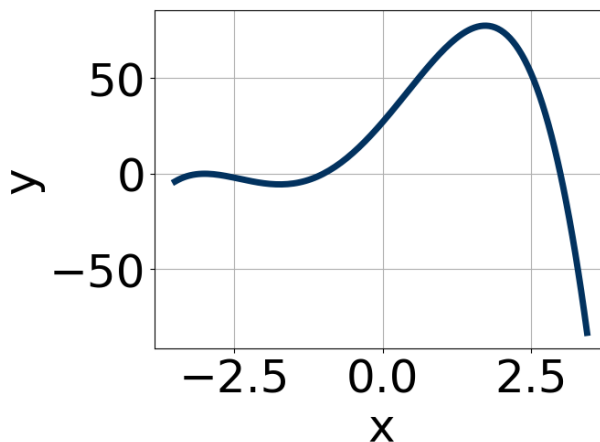
$x^3 - 9x^2 + 31x - 39$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - (-3 - 2i))(x - (-3 + 2i))(x - 3)$ .

- E. None of the above.

This corresponds to making an unanticipated error or not understanding how to use nonreal complex numbers to create the lowest-degree polynomial. If you chose this and are not sure what you did wrong, please contact the coordinator for help.

**General Comment:** Remember that the conjugate of  $a + bi$  is  $a - bi$ . Since these zeros always come in pairs, we need to multiply out  $(x - (-3 - 2i))(x - (-3 + 2i))(x - (-3))$ .

2. Which of the following equations *could* be of the graph presented below?



The solution is  $-15(x+3)^{10}(x-3)^7(x+1)^{11}$ , which is option A.

A.  $-15(x+3)^{10}(x-3)^7(x+1)^{11}$

\* This is the correct option.

B.  $-9(x+3)^{11}(x-3)^8(x+1)^9$

The factor  $-3$  should have an even power and the factor  $3$  should have an odd power.

C.  $-7(x+3)^{10}(x-3)^6(x+1)^7$

The factor  $(x-3)$  should have an odd power.

D.  $5(x+3)^{10}(x-3)^5(x+1)^4$

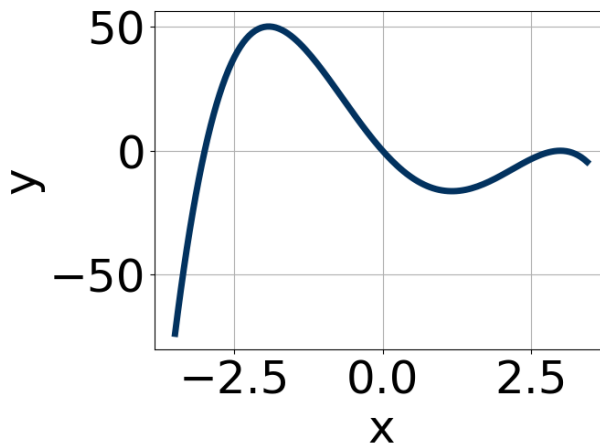
The factor  $(x+1)$  should have an odd power and the leading coefficient should be the opposite sign.

E.  $7(x+3)^6(x-3)^5(x+1)^5$

This corresponds to the leading coefficient being the opposite value than it should be.

**General Comment:** General Comments: Draw the x-axis to determine which zeros are touching (and so have even multiplicity) or cross (and have odd multiplicity).

3. Which of the following equations *could* be of the graph presented below?



The solution is  $-7x^7(x-3)^8(x+3)^5$ , which is option D.

A.  $10x^7(x-3)^4(x+3)^{10}$

The factor  $(x+3)$  should have an odd power and the leading coefficient should be the opposite sign.

B.  $15x^{11}(x-3)^6(x+3)^5$

This corresponds to the leading coefficient being the opposite value than it should be.

C.  $-20x^6(x-3)^9(x+3)^7$

The factor  $3$  should have an even power and the factor  $0$  should have an odd power.

D.  $-7x^7(x-3)^8(x+3)^5$

\* This is the correct option.

E.  $-18x^4(x-3)^4(x+3)^5$

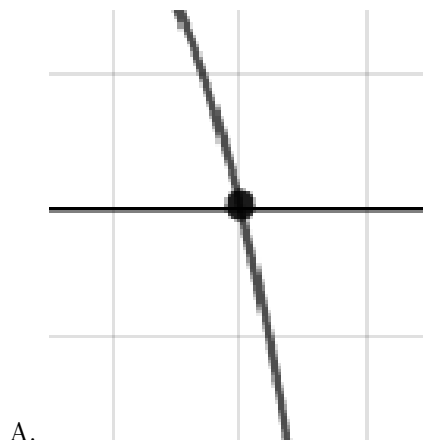
The factor  $x$  should have an odd power.

**General Comment:** General Comments: Draw the x-axis to determine which zeros are touching (and so have even multiplicity) or cross (and have odd multiplicity).

4. Describe the zero behavior of the zero  $x = 4$  of the polynomial below.

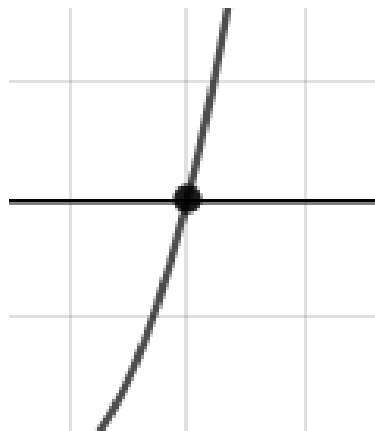
$$f(x) = 2(x+6)^8(x-6)^4(x-4)^{10}(x+4)^7$$

The solution is the graph below, which is option C.





C.



D.

E. None of the above.

**General Comment:** You will need to sketch the entire graph, then zoom in on the zero the question asks about.

5. Construct the lowest-degree polynomial given the zeros below. Then, choose the intervals that contain the coefficients of the polynomial in the form  $x^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ .

$$2 + 3i \text{ and } 3$$

The solution is  $x^3 - 7x^2 + 25x - 39$ , which is option D.

- A.  $b \in [4, 11]$ ,  $c \in [21.54, 25.63]$ , and  $d \in [33, 43]$

$x^3 + 7x^2 + 25x + 39$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - (2 + 3i))(x - (2 - 3i))(x + 3)$ .

- B.  $b \in [-3, 5]$ ,  $c \in [-5.17, -2.87]$ , and  $d \in [0, 7]$

$x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 6$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 2)(x - 3)$ .

- C.  $b \in [-3, 5]$ ,  $c \in [-6.83, -5.89]$ , and  $d \in [9, 10]$

$x^3 + x^2 - 6x + 9$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(x - 3)(x - 3)$ .

- D.  $b \in [-9, -4]$ ,  $c \in [21.54, 25.63]$ , and  $d \in [-46, -38]$

\*  $x^3 - 7x^2 + 25x - 39$ , which is the correct option.

E. None of the above.

This corresponds to making an unanticipated error or not understanding how to use nonreal complex numbers to create the lowest-degree polynomial. If you chose this and are not sure what you did wrong, please contact the coordinator for help.

**General Comment:** Remember that the conjugate of  $a + bi$  is  $a - bi$ . Since these zeros always come in pairs, we need to multiply out  $(x - (2 + 3i))(x - (2 - 3i))(x - 3)$ .

6. Construct the lowest-degree polynomial given the zeros below. Then, choose the intervals that contain the coefficients of the polynomial in the form  $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ .

$$\frac{3}{5}, \frac{-1}{3}, \text{ and } \frac{-1}{2}$$

The solution is  $30x^3 + 7x^2 - 10x - 3$ , which is option E.

A.  $a \in [30, 39], b \in [-13, -1], c \in [-13, -6],$  and  $d \in [-1, 7]$

$30x^3 - 7x^2 - 10x + 3$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(5x + 3)(3x - 1)(2x - 1)$ .

B.  $a \in [30, 39], b \in [40, 44], c \in [18, 24],$  and  $d \in [-1, 7]$

$30x^3 + 43x^2 + 20x + 3$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(5x + 3)(3x + 1)(2x + 1)$ .

C.  $a \in [30, 39], b \in [22, 27], c \in [-2, 0],$  and  $d \in [-3, -2]$

$30x^3 + 23x^2 - 2x - 3$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(5x + 3)(3x - 1)(2x + 1)$ .

D.  $a \in [30, 39], b \in [7, 13], c \in [-13, -6],$  and  $d \in [-1, 7]$

$30x^3 + 7x^2 - 10x + 3$ , which corresponds to multiplying everything correctly except the constant term.

E.  $a \in [30, 39], b \in [7, 13], c \in [-13, -6],$  and  $d \in [-3, -2]$

\*  $30x^3 + 7x^2 - 10x - 3$ , which is the correct option.

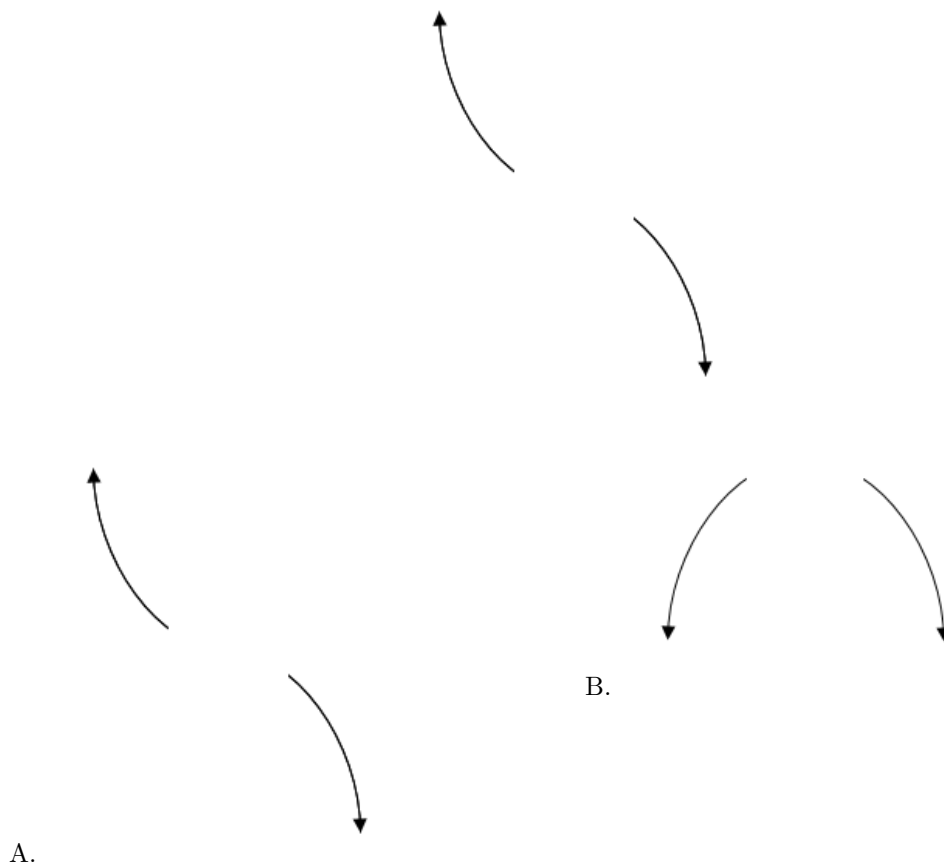
**General Comment:** To construct the lowest-degree polynomial, you want to multiply out  $(5x - 3)(3x + 1)(2x + 1)$

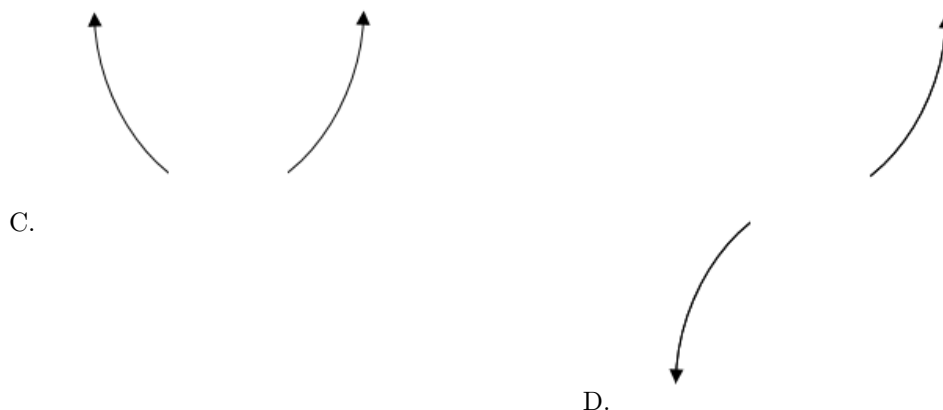
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7. Describe the end behavior of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = -7(x - 9)^5(x + 9)^8(x + 4)^5(x - 4)^7$$

The solution is the graph below, which is option A.





E. None of the above.

**General Comment:** Remember that end behavior is determined by the leading coefficient AND whether the **sum** of the multiplicities is positive or negative.

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8. Construct the lowest-degree polynomial given the zeros below. Then, choose the intervals that contain the coefficients of the polynomial in the form  $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ .

$$\frac{-6}{5}, \frac{3}{5}, \text{ and } \frac{7}{2}$$

The solution is  $50x^3 - 145x^2 - 141x + 126$ , which is option E.

- A.  $a \in [48, 54], b \in [-154, -139], c \in [-141, -135]$ , and  $d \in [-128, -118]$

$50x^3 - 145x^2 - 141x - 126$ , which corresponds to multiplying everything correctly except the constant term.

- B.  $a \in [48, 54], b \in [-206, -201], c \in [67, 73]$ , and  $d \in [125, 132]$

$50x^3 - 205x^2 + 69x + 126$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(5x - 6)(5x + 3)(2x - 7)$ .

- C.  $a \in [48, 54], b \in [-267, -261], c \in [350, 357]$ , and  $d \in [-128, -118]$

$50x^3 - 265x^2 + 351x - 126$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(5x - 6)(5x - 3)(2x - 7)$ .

- D.  $a \in [48, 54], b \in [142, 152], c \in [-141, -135]$ , and  $d \in [-128, -118]$

$50x^3 + 145x^2 - 141x - 126$ , which corresponds to multiplying out  $(5x - 6)(5x + 3)(2x + 7)$ .

- E.  $a \in [48, 54], b \in [-154, -139], c \in [-141, -135]$ , and  $d \in [125, 132]$

\*  $50x^3 - 145x^2 - 141x + 126$ , which is the correct option.

**General Comment:** To construct the lowest-degree polynomial, you want to multiply out  $(5x + 6)(5x - 3)(2x - 7)$

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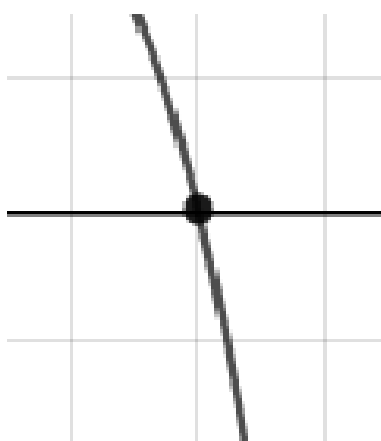
9. Describe the zero behavior of the zero  $x = 5$  of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = -7(x - 3)^6(x + 3)^3(x - 5)^{10}(x + 5)^7$$

The solution is the graph below, which is option B.



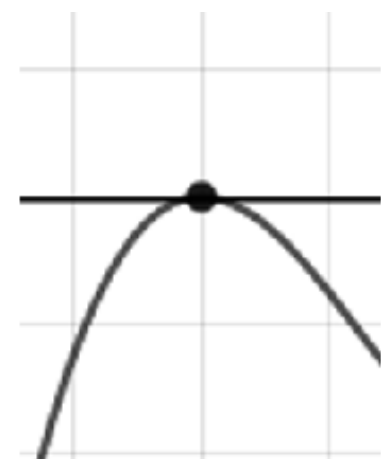
A.



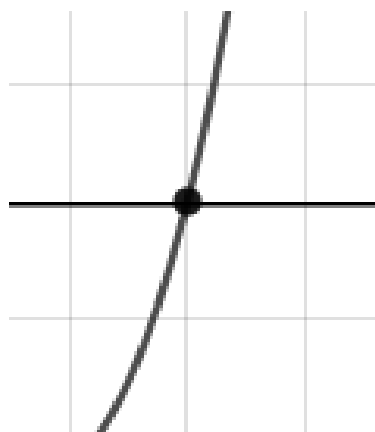
C.



B.



D.



E. None of the above.

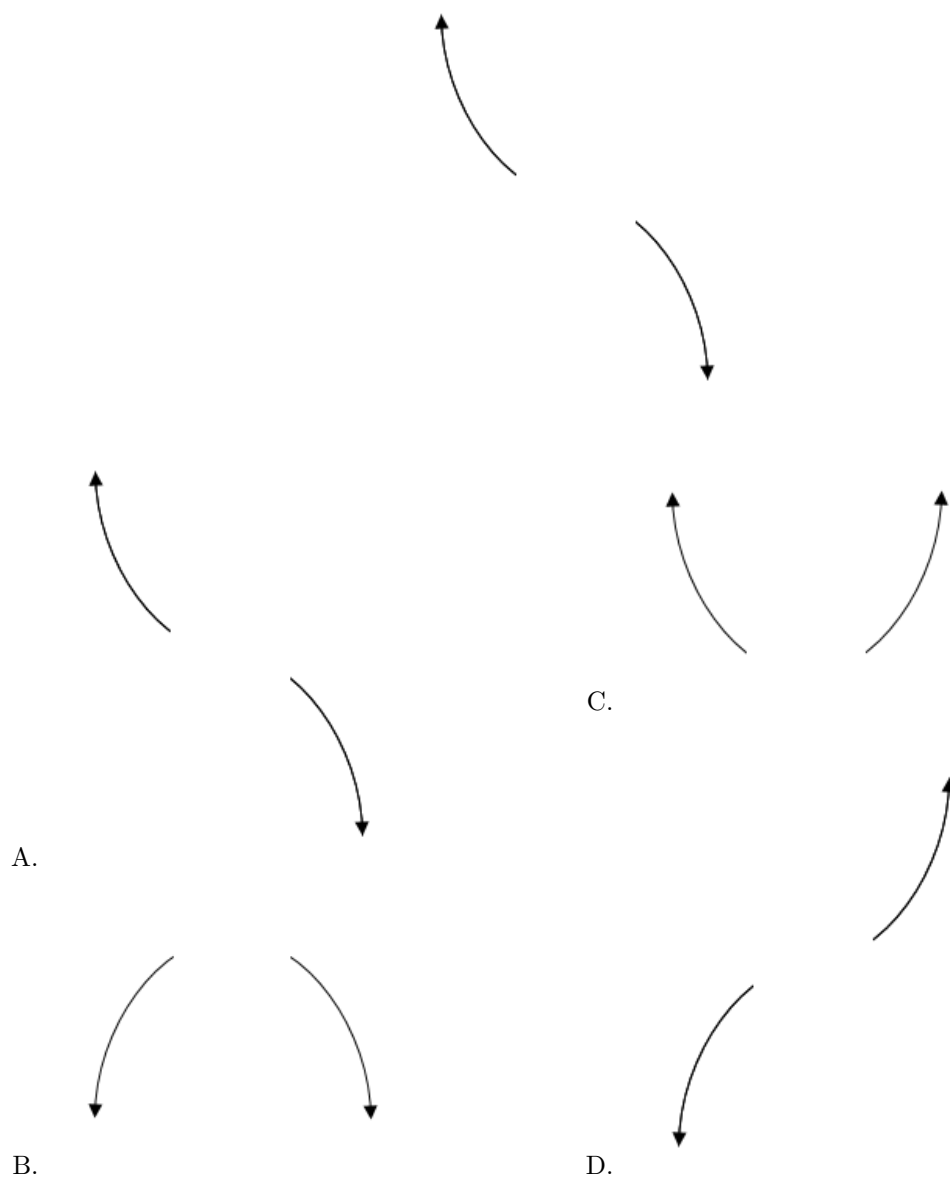
**General Comment:** You will need to sketch the entire graph, then zoom in on the zero the question asks about.

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10. Describe the end behavior of the polynomial below.

$$f(x) = -8(x + 3)^4(x - 3)^5(x + 7)^3(x - 7)^5$$

The solution is the graph below, which is option A.



E. None of the above.

**General Comment:** Remember that end behavior is determined by the leading coefficient AND whether the **sum** of the multiplicities is positive or negative.

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